

Toronto Conservatory of Music

1945 - 1946

WEDNESDAY
FIVE O'CLOCKS

FIRST CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

PARLOW STRING QUARTET

GUEST ARTIST: CORNELIUS YSSELSTYN - 'CELLO

Kathleen Parlow	-	-	First Violin
Samuel Hersenhoren	-	-	Second Violin
Michael Barten	-	-	Viola
Isaac Mamott	-	-	'Cello

CONSERVATORY CONCERT HALL
(College Street and University Avenue)

Wednesday, November 28th, 1945, at five o'clock

Tema con variazioni from Quartet in A, Op. 2 Gliere

Reinhold Gliere (1875-1926) was born in Kiev, and studied at the Moscow Conservatory under Tanciev and Ippolitov-Ivanov.

Although of Belgian parentage his whole musical utterance and idiom was completely Russian. It is perhaps easy to recognize the influence of such composers as Tchaikovsky, Borodin and Glazounov in Gliere's compositions, but his mastery of the chamber music style and knowledge of the capabilities of the instruments, combined with his great gift of melody, make his music of definite value to the chamber music repertoire.

The "Theme and Variations" from the First Quartet is probably considered the most popular and characteristic of Gliere's works.

Quintet in C major, Op. 163 Schubert

(for two violins, viola, and two cellos)

This quintet was composed in 1828, and is thus the last work written by Schubert. Lyrically and dramatically nothing more perfect has ever been composed for strings. It is sheer enchantment from beginning to end, and words seem almost useless in trying to describe adequately this glorious music.

One might, however, draw attention to a few of the highlights — for example, the quiet opening which quickly leads to excitement; then the indescribably beautiful duet between the two cellos, followed by the same theme played by the violins. The glorious theme then gives way to a tempestuous middle section, and a few eloquent and dramatic silences bring one to the return of the principal theme, this time embellished by a series of ascending passages given the second cello. The lively and vigorous scherzo, known as "La Chasse", has a remarkable trio. Instead of the usual "Ländler" rhythm, so dear to Schubert, it is in an almost funereal and menacing mood — furthermore it is supposed to be his last writing. The finale is gay and joyous throughout — Viennese in style with the violins having many charming filigree passages to weave around the themes of the other instruments. The movement becomes even more exciting and stormy, ending with an energetic and triumphant flourish.

From a purely technical point of view the whole work shows such a mastery of instrumental writing that instead of the extra cello overpowering the already perfect balance of a string quartet, one can only marvel at the clear and resonant effects obtained.

Programme

GOD SAVE THE KING

Tema con variazioni from Quartet in A, Op. 2 Gliere

Quintet in C major, Op. 163 Schubert

Allegro ma non troppo

Adagio

Scherzo - Presto

Allegretto

SECOND CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT

HARRY ADASKIN - VIOLINIST
FRANCES MARR - at the PIANO

P R O G R A M M E

1. Sonata (1943) Aaron Copland
2. Poeme Ernest Chausson
3. Sea Murmurs Castelnuova-Tedesco - Heifetz
Praeludium Bach - Kreisler

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12th, 1945, AT FIVE O'CLOCK

Excerpt from Mother's letter of Nov. 29/ 45:

" Enclosed is the program of Kathleen's quartette. It was the most wonderful yet. Mr. Charlesworth was almost taking her in his arms afterwards, and Lady Macmillan threw her arms around her in excitement. They weren't playing notes: it was spirit moving them, led and controlled by Kathleen. One could almost get drunk on such music, but that word is not right, for it was a foretaste of the heavenly music, and it was beautiful to see, and unusual, with two cellos in the 2nd number. Kathleen writes the notes. "Beautiful writing," Minnie says. I wish you could have heard it!"

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An earlier reference, Feb. 21/ 41:

Yesterday, when Sir Ernest announced, after the lecture-recital that Kathleen was going to remain in Toronto, the whole little audience clapped and cheered, something like a lot of foreigners. They are to look for an old-fashioned house with a large living-room with high ceiling, and Minnie will go right away to N.Y. to move her furniture & stuff, Kathleen remaining to carry on lessons etc.... Violet Ogle, a sister of Mildred's, phoned and said she had heard M.'s broadcast with Kathleen & had phoned Kathleen to ask Maida's name and address!...but the queer things are too lengthy to tell now."

October 10, 1911

My dear Mr. Brewster,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th inst. in relation to the matter of the purchase of the land for the establishment of a new station for the service of the public. I am glad to hear that you are interested in this matter and I am sure that the land will be purchased for the purpose of the establishment of a new station for the service of the public.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. M. Brewster